

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled)

17. (New) A method for producing a packaging material web comprising:
 - conveying a thermoplastic layer toward a nip between a first pair of rollers, the first pair of rollers comprising first and second rollers, with the first roller being heated;
 - conveying a metal foil towards the nip between the first pair of rollers;
 - passing the thermoplastic layer and the metal foil concurrently through the nip between the first pair of rollers to compress the thermoplastic layer and the metal foil together while applying heat sufficient to adhere the thermoplastic layer to the metal foil to produce a united laminate web;
 - conveying the united laminate web toward a nip between a second pair of rollers;
 - conveying a core web of paper or cardboard provided with at least one through hole toward the nip between the second pair of rollers;
 - extruding a thermoplastic adhesive between the united laminate web and the core web; and
 - passing the united laminate web and the core web through the nip between the second pair of rollers with the thermoplastic adhesive between the core

web and the united laminate web to join together the united laminate web and the core web and produce a packaging material web in which the at least one through hole in the core web is covered by the united laminate web and the metal foil of the united laminate web faces a first side of the core web.

18. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the core web possesses a second side opposite the first side, the core web comprising a coating of a thermoplastic material on the second side that covers the at least one through hole.

19. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the thermoplastic layer is a thermoplastic laminate comprising coextruded layers of EAA and LDPE.

20. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the metal foil is passed through the nip between the first pair of rollers so that the metal foil contacts the first roller, the second roller of the first pair of rollers being a cooled roller.

21. (New) The method according to claim 20, wherein the thermoplastic layer is a thermoplastic laminate comprising coextruded layers of EAA and LDPE and the thermoplastic laminate contacts the cooled roller.

22. (New) The method according to claim 20, wherein the first roller is heated to a temperature between 150°C and 200°C.

23. (New) The method according to claim 17, further comprising passing the united laminate web over a bending roller before the united laminate web is passed through the nip of the second pair of rollers.

24. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the metal foil is conveyed from a reel towards the nip between the first pair of rollers.

25. (New) The method according to claim 24, wherein the thermoplastic layer is conveyed from a reel towards the nip between the first pair of rollers.

26. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the thermoplastic layer is a thermoplastic laminate comprising an EAA layer and a LDPE layer, and wherein the EAA layer is bonded directly to the metal foil.

27. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the metal foil has a thickness of 5 μ to 20 μ .

28. (New) A method for producing a packaging material web provided with an opening arrangement, which packaging material is subsequently converted into packaging containers filled with contents to be dispensed by way of the opening arrangement, the method comprising:

conveying a thermoplastic layer toward a nip between a first pair of rollers, the first pair of rollers comprising first and second rollers, with the first roller being heated;

conveying a metal foil towards the nip between the first pair of rollers; passing the thermoplastic layer and the metal foil concurrently through the nip between the first pair of rollers to compress the thermoplastic layer and the metal foil together while applying heat sufficient to adhere the thermoplastic layer to the metal foil to produce a united laminate web;

conveying the united laminate web toward a nip between a second pair of rollers;

conveying a core web of paper or cardboard provided with at least one through hole toward the nip between the second pair of rollers;

extruding a thermoplastic adhesive between the united laminate web and the core web; and

passing the united laminate web and the core web through the nip between the second pair of rollers with the thermoplastic adhesive between the core web and the united laminate web to join together the united laminate web and the core web and produce the packaging material web in which the at least one through hole in the core web is covered by the united laminate web to form the opening arrangement and the metal foil of the united laminate web faces a first side of the core web.

29. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the core web possesses a second side opposite the first side, the core web comprising a coating of a thermoplastic material on the second side that covers the at least one through hole.

30. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the thermoplastic layer is a thermoplastic laminate comprising coextruded layers of EAA and LDPE.

31. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the metal foil is passed through the nip between the first pair of rollers so that the metal foil contacts the first roller, the second roller of the first pair of rollers being a cooled roller.

32. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the thermoplastic layer is a thermoplastic laminate comprising coextruded layers of EAA and LDPE and the thermoplastic laminate contacts the cooled roller.

33. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the first roller is heated to a temperature between 150°C and 200°C.

34. (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein the metal foil is conveyed from a reel towards the nip between the first pair of rollers.

35. (New) The method according to claim 34, wherein the thermoplastic layer is conveyed from a reel towards the nip between the first pair of rollers.

36. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the metal foil has a thickness of 5 μ to 20 μ .